

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

#10

ACCESS RESTRICTED

Item No. 26519 Date 06 MAY 43

Now In File 92-00 687 R

Box 1

Folder 4

has been withdrawn from this file:

Job No. 76-787

Box No. 14

Folder No. 54 AUSNIT, EDGAR

Doc # XX 4100

New York - SI - Per - 3

The item has been withdrawn because it contains security classified
information or otherwise restricted information.

Ludwig Neiger

MAX AUSNIT

Edgar Ausnit -

Michael Lam

Joseph Tenenbaum

National Security Act of 1947

Authority

1947

Date

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

HA 70-2
DATE 3-4-92 REVIEWER 665700

□ SSN 11-1111111111
OR 1111

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SECRET

May 6, 1943

Mr. Whitney E. Shepardson

Bernard Yarrow

Ludwig Neiger

MAX NEIGER.

After having received a copy of Packy's cable re his meeting with Mr. Neiger, I had a general talk with Edgar Ausnit regarding the Roumanian situation. During said conversation I requested Edgar Ausnit to give me some idea about his brother Max's secretaries now residing outside Roumania. At my suggestion he dictated the memorandum enclosed herewith which, I believe, gives us a pretty good idea of Mr. Neiger's relationship with Max Ausnit.

I believe that this contact with Max Ausnit, through Mr. Neiger, could very effectively be utilized for at least SI purposes, if nothing more.

If there is any other information that you wish me to obtain at this end, please let me know and I shall attempt forthwith to obtain it.

I just learned that on April 19, 1943, the Office of Alien Property Custodian in its first Divesting Order restituted, after an investigation lasting since July 2, 1942, all capital stock of Cisatlantic Corporation and Ciseceanic Corporation to Edgar Ausnit, the owner of same. I am enclosing herewith a photostat copy of this Order as further proof bearing upon Edgar Ausnit's reliability.

Encl.

DOCUMENT NO. 26510
NO CHANGE IN CLASS ☒
☐ DECLASSIFIED
EXEC. ORDER 12051 T3 S 0
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 665100
B.Y. AUTH: HR 10-2
DATE: 7-4-92 REVIEWER: 665100

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Some secretaries of my brother and myself, who were for many years in close contact with us, succeeded to leave Roumania. One of them is Mr. Ludwig Neiger.

LUDWIG NEIGER.

I met first Mr. Neiger in 1923, when he and his father paid me a visit in Galatz, when they heard, that we had taken over the management of the Calan Works (Titan-Madrag-Calan) where his father was working for the last thirty years as Chief-Chemist.

Because of the knowledge of languages of Ludwig Neiger (English, Roumanian, Hungarian, German, French), my brother appointed him soon afterwards as his secretary which position he practically maintained until he left Roumania in spring 1941, although his position was continuously improved by being appointed by us first Sub-Manager, and later on Manager of Titan-Madrag-Calan, and Manager and Member of the Board of Directors in many subsidiaries and holdings.

In all these twenty years he has proven himself as absolutely trustworthy and reliable, very diligent and very much devoted, not only to the Company, but especially to my brother personally. When in fall of 1939 my brother was arrested, Neiger and several other Member of the Staff were arrested too and knocked around. But the police could not get any inside information out of him, although he knew practically everything, not only from the business point of view, but also the private and confidential affairs and contacts of my brother. He was therefore released by the police after a day or two, and he continued to be one of the main links between me, living abroad and my brother, although my brother continued to be arrested.

Because of his activity during the last twenty years I personally vouch for his integrity and reliability and for his pro-Ally and anti-Nazi sentiments.

Before the outbreak of the war in 1939, he sent his wife and his child and his wife's father to England, where they stayed ever since. When he succeeded to leave Roumania in Spring 1941, he arrived in Palestine, from where he wrote me several letters and gave me the information about what happened until his departure which information confirmed all the news I received through other channels.

He also informed that he could not obtain the permission to join his family in England, probably because of his Roumanian passport.

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SECRET
Ludwig Heiger
97 Disengoff Road,
Tel-Aviv, Palestine

MICHAEL LAM.

Mr. Lam is very distantly related to us and was employed by us first at Titan-Madrag-Calan and later on at Socomet, one of our subsidiaries, where he became Sub-Manager. He is born a Polish Citizen, graduated as Doctor of Law in Vienna and is licentiate of the "Wiener Neue Handelsakademie". He knows many languages (German, Roumanian, English and may be others)

He is very reliable, trustworthy and of course anti-Nazi.

He succeeded to leave Roumania in 1941 and reached Palestine where he stays now at the following address:

Michale Lam
c/o Dr. Struck
85, Ben Yehuda Street
Tel-Aviv, Palestine

JOSEPH TENENBAUM

Mr. Joseph Tenenbaum is a lawyer, born in Galatz, Roumania and was appointed by me merely for confidential work which he did for nearly twenty years, graduated from College in Paris.

He left Roumania before the outbreak of the war, stayed in my house in Paris and in my brother's villa in Biarritz, leaving Biarritz for Lisbon a few days before the German occupation and succeeded to take with him the then four year old son of my brother with his nurse who had stayed with him in Biarritz. I secured for him a Mexican Visa and he arrived in Mexico in March 1942 where he now resides at the following address:

Joseph Tenenbaum,
Hotel Carlton,
Mexico D.F.

He too is very reliable and anti-Nazi in his sentiments.

National Security Act of 1950 /s/ Edgar Ausnit.

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DATE: 8-4-92 REVIEWER: 665100

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August 18, 1942

Dr. Noel B. Hunter
Strossmattstrasse 6
Zurich

SECRET
SECRET

Dear Mr. Hunter
Memorandum To: George K. Bowden
From: Arthur J. Goldberg
Subject: Hungarian Project

I have an opportunity to write to you through a quick and safe channel. It is such a stupid feeling to write letters knowing that before they reach their destination all is passed on. The project which I sent down in the above

matter with my memorandum dated August 15, 1942, should be supplemented by adding enclosures which are copies of three months' lecture tour to the Army.

Letters that Mr. Bekessy proposes to send by diplomatic

I should be very glad if you could write me soon and tell me how you pouch to his friends in Switzerland. national security Charlie is. Is he in the British Army?

C. J. B.

Today I am writing you in connection with my work over here and to ask for your active collaboration.

The U.S.A. feels very badly about the fact that the News Service with Hungary and the Balkans is interrupted. In conjunction with an American organization I intend to revive the "Geneva Press Service." The aim would be to obtain news from the above-mentioned countries and to pass on to them news and articles. In brief, the G.P.S. shall become a camouflaged News Service for the United States, i.e. United Nations.

In a letter, copy of which I include, I have entrusted our friend Andre Lang, 7 rue Grenus, Geneva, to take the necessary steps to reopen the G.P.S. After having read this letter you will understand everything.

My request is for your kind cooperation in this matter. You surely have several correspondents in the Balkan countries and I also suppose that your telephone service still functions, at least partially.

My suggestion would be to establish a cooperation between our and your correspondents. Naturally, the G.P.S. would bear the main expenses. In addition I want to mention that I want to inform Andre Lang and speak of anything you think should be passed on to the United Nations. Naturally, a certain regular report to you or to Charlie.

Our aim is to contribute to the common cause.

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DATE: 7-4-92 REVIEWER: 6652000

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DATE: 3-4-92 REVIEWER: 665700

REVIEW DATE: 5-4-92
DATE: 5-4-92 REVIEWER: 665700

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Dr. Noel D. Panter
Sternenstrasse 6
Zurich

Dear Friend,

After a long interruption, I at last have an opportunity to write to you through a quick and safe channel. It is such a stupid feeling to write letters knowing that before they reach their destination all is passed and out-of-date.

Now I want to catch up, and first of all to tell you that we are very happy in this country. Hans has had a tremendous success with his book, "A Thousand Shall Fall," and has just come back from a three months' lecture tour in the Army Camps.

I should be very happy if you would write me soon and tell me how you feel personally, how your service functions and where Charlie is. Is he in the British Army?

Today I am writing you in connection with my work over here and to ask for your active collaboration.

The U.S.A. feels very badly about the fact that the News Service with Hungary and the Balkans is interrupted. In conjunction with an American organization I intend to revive the "Geneva Press Service." The aim would be to obtain news from the above-mentioned countries and to pass on to them news and articles. In brief, the G.P.S. shall become a camouflaged News Service for the United States, i.e. United Nations.

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My request is for your kind cooperation in this matter. You surely have several correspondents in the Balkan countries and I also suppose that your telephone service still functions, at least partially.

My suggestion would be to establish a cooperation between our and your correspondents. Naturally, the G.P.S. would make a contribution to expenses. In addition I would be most grateful if you could inform Andre Lang and myself of anything you think of interest to the United Nations. Naturally, a certain regular payment could be made to you or to Charlie.

Our aim is to contribute to the common cause. You know that

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The Y. M. W. is a very much that since her entry into the war the work has been to help. In old friendship, yours best, inter-
fused all that is possible, these wholehearted and spontaneous to
influence the public's opinion of the (signed) Irene Bekessy are I have
promised to an interested organization in this country to let the
"Glee Club" have their share in the work, and to make through the
house a service which would be most helpful in the work, and
which, through carefully confidential and confidential work and
give the friends of peace and freedom. Your work can serve the
great cause of the United Nations. I feel sure that this is also
your most great work. After as to getting her I, I suppose it should
proceed in this manner:

As you know at the beginning of the year the White General Staff granted the G.P.S. a concession in your case as Chief Editor. Therefore you don't need any special authorization to publish the G.P.S. from its slumber. You also remember that the only obligation which was imposed on us as to Altmann was to send St. 15 post together with a copy of everything published.

The contents of the articles or news service and what we be so carefully worried, that the Salem Sensational is not in any way hampered. We went to furnish to the newspapers of Hong Kong, Australia and Singapore good "reading material", like that which our friends in the "Sensational", but we went to be still more careful. The articles of the "Sensational" are copyrighted where so, on the contrary, want our articles and news to be reproduced or altered in any way.

As far as the journalistic content of the problem goes, the matter is easy. The U.S.S.R. would select a single page out of a number of newspapers on either of 2 pages - for editorial use. The would get most of the material from the 1st Hungary - which is considered as the most important center - I mean, while the article is in Hungarian. For the other countries you can yourself. I have also Hungarian) translate these articles into English. I would also have disposed the list of the newspapers which you should as. These would be the circular letter by which we ask for subscriptions.

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Although I should, of course, be glad if the above-mentioned papers could take regular subscription, this is only of minor importance. It shall be satisfied if the papers pay for the subscription. Dear Andre, not even if the papers do not do anything for the cause.

SECRET

Although I have not yet had an answer to my last long letter I seize this opportunity to write you in a very important matter. There is now an opportunity to revive the "Geneva Press Service." It only depends on you to realize our old project to use the G.P.S. as a means of active anti-Nazi propaganda. The object of this letter is to give you a brief description of our aims and of the possibilities to accomplish them.

The U.S.A. regrets very much that since her entry into the war the news service to and from the Balkans is completely interrupted and that in consequence there exists almost no possibilities to influence the public opinion of these countries. Therefore I have proposed to an interested organization in this country to put the "Geneva Press Service" anew into working and to create through this means a Service whereby Geneva would collect and transmit news and which, through a skillfully camouflaged article-service would, propagate the ideals of democracy and freedom. Thus we can serve the great cause of the United Nations. I feel sure that this is also your most ardent wish. Allow me to outline how I propose we should proceed in this matter:

As you know at the beginning of the war, the Swiss General Staff granted the G.P.S. a concession on your name as Chief Editor. Therefore you don't need any special authorization to awaken the G.P.S. from its slumber. You also remember that the only obligation which was imposed on us was to furnish the General Staff post festum with a copy of everything published.

The contents of the articles or news service can and must be so carefully worded, that the Swiss Neutrality is not in any way hampered. We want to furnish to the newspapers of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria good "reading material", like that which can be found in the "Weltwoche", but we want to be still more careful. The articles of the "Weltwoche" are copyrighted while we, on the contrary, want our articles and news to be reproduced as widely as possible.

As far as the journalistic aspect of the problem goes, the matter is easy. The G.P.S. would twice a week send out to a certain number of newspapers an edition of 8 pages of typewritten size. You would get most of this material from me. For Hungary - which I consider as the most important center - I would write the articles myself in Hungarian. For the other countries, you can yourself (as you know Hungarian) translate these articles into French. I would put at your disposal the list of the newspapers which you should approach as well as the circular letter by which we ask for subscriptions.

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Although I should, of course, be glad if the above-mentioned papers would take regular subscriptions, this is only of minor importance. We shall be satisfied if the papers pay for the lines which they reprint. But even if the papers do not pay anything (which is rather customary with Balkan papers) this does not matter. Our chief ambition is that the papers receive, read and reprint the G.P.S. — in brief, with the greatest care and skill I should like to draw these papers on the Democratic side. In spite of censorship I hope to be successful in this endeavor because Balkan newspapers are happy if they can get interesting material free of charge.

In connection with this plan we must also find in Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria reliable correspondents who by mail and by telephone would supply us with news. This also should not be too difficult because G.P.S. is a neutral Press Agency. Other Swiss papers also have correspondents in Hungary and other places in the Balkans.

For Hungary I have already selected a correspondent. I beg to forward by airmail the enclosed letter to my friend, Dr. Georg Mauksch, who is also correspondent of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung. This letter is written in such a way that it can face Hungarian censorship. On the contrary, I want the Hungarian Censorship to read the letter. As soon as you receive the reply please forward it to me through the same channel as you got my letter. In reading through the letter you will see what I request from Dr. Mauksch. This would be sufficient for the beginning.

But much more important is another task. We must find a very reliable Swiss who would go to Budapest, Bucharest or Sofia either as correspondent of the G.P.S. or as Swiss businessman. His duties would be to contact my friends in Budapest, to arrange a code with them and to find similarly reliable persons in Bucharest and Sofia. It goes without saying that he must be not only a so-called "Aryan" but also politically completely unknown. You who know almost every person living in Geneva will have no difficulty to find such a person. Of course we would pay him decently but it must be a man who is idealist enough to accomplish his work for the sake of the cause we are fighting for. The necessary instructions would be given to this man through your intermediary.

A third task must still be undertaken: You know that often Hungarian personalities come to Switzerland. You surely remember the gentlemen at the Hotel d'Angleterre. Our friend Sonnenfeld knows always when a Hungarian comes to Switzerland and you will be able to learn the names from him. Whoever comes from Hungary I am likely to know, as they are mostly Jewish businessmen and bankers.

The names of these gentlemen should be communicated immediately by you to the channel through which you get my letter so that they can be cabled or telephoned to me. I would then cable you an introduction which would enable you to inform yourself with these

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gentlemen about conditions in Hungary. Such information can be of great interest.

I also would appreciate it if you would collaborate in all these questions with Mr. Panter, to whom I am writing by the same mail. He surely still has an extensive telephone service at his disposal. Therefore, if you are willing to revive the G.P.S. in the above-described frame you should immediately get in touch with him.

And now, my dear Andre, give me quickly a reply on the principal question if you agree to collaborate with me and to infuse new life into the moribund G.P.S.

It is understood that all the expenses of the G.P.S. would be covered by me and that you would get a regular salary. I propose \$120.00 per month. You could either rent an office or work at home. The less attention you attract the better. We want to reopen the G.P.S. in a very modest way, as if you were trying to earn a little extra money through some journalistic work. After all, you are the owner of the concession and were always a journalist. Nobody can be surprised if you take up your journalistic activities.

As I like to tackle every work immediately I should appreciate if in case you consent to do this work, you would go to Mlle. Houriet's office, 31 Quai des Bergues, and find out how much the copying and mimeographing of 50 copies of a manuscript of 8 pages, twice a week, will cost. Their office could also do the expedition. This would be a regular job. Please include in your answer the price offer of Mlle. Houriet. On this basis I could draw up your budget and let you have the necessary money.

Dear Andre — it is not necessary between you and me to insist on the fact that it is not a "business proposition" I am making to you. It is the fulfillment of our ardent wish to fight against Nazism and fascism, and in fact the continuation of our previous action. — It is an attempt to put our feeble forces at the disposal of the great cause of The Four Freedoms. My son has risked his life. I simply cannot continue to stay apart and to benefit from the hospitality of this great country of Liberty without any counterpart on my part. The moment has come to act. I know that I will find in you a deep response. I count on your collaboration. Think the matter over carefully and give me your reply as quickly as possible.

With kindest regards from my wife, Hans and myself for Simone and you, I am

Your old friend,

P.S. Please send included letter by air mail to Dr. Mauksch.

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[Handwritten note on a separate piece of paper, partially obscured]

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DE CHAMBRE

SECRET

(HWP)

030155

Room 3663
630 Fifth Avenue

June 30, 1942

MEMORANDUM

TO: HENRY D. HYDE

FROM: H. GREGORY THOMAS

Your memorandum of June 27 concerning certain conversations which we are having in view of further collaboration with the Basques is most interesting. It is fortunate that several of us should know the Basque personalities. I have been a personal friend of MANUEL DE LA SOTA and his nephew, RAMON, for some years.

RAMON is not acquainted with our activities or our proposed operation, nor to I deem it advisable that for the present he should be informed of this project. I believe that in the future, with proper control, he may become extremely valuable, not only to PRESIDENT AGUIRRE and to his own uncle, but to ourselves, in our operations in this field. I shall be glad to discuss this matter further with you when we meet. Should you have occasion to meet RAMON prior to this time, I would prefer that you refrain from discussing our activities with him.

Regarding the other matter you mentioned, I shall arrange to obtain whatever information is available through GORDON H. PIKE, concerning the personality and activities of

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EMBARKED, and shall communicate to you anything of importance which I may learn.

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COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

SECRET

INTEROFFICE MEMO

FROM: Henry B. Hyde
TO: Gregory Thomas
SUBJECT:

DATE JUN 27 1942

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Mr. Roseborough suggested that I get in touch with you concerning two possible leads that might be useful in future projects.

1. Some material was furnished us by the Treasury Investigations Division covering statements of one Miguel Erbmahced, made on behalf of Gordon H. Pike, Supervising Customs Agent, 53 Broadway, New York. Miguel Erbmahced is a French citizen and has been in this country since 1936. In 1942 he has apparently worked fairly regularly for the Supervising Customs Agent in the Port of New York on questions regarding various illegal loadings of cargo on Spanish ships. He has also been engaged in investigating illegal loadings of mail pouches destined for the French Consulate from French ships coming into New York from Martinique.

He is apparently very familiar with pro-Axis activities of Spanish Axis Agents in this country, particularly of Garcia and Diaz, shipping agents of the Spanish Government in New York.

Mr. Erbmahced claims to be equally familiar with the activities of pro and anti-Axis Spanish in Spain and Europe generally. Mr. Roseborough and I felt that you might possibly know this man or could find out further information about him from Mr. Gordon H. Pike, Supervising Customs Agent, New York. If at some time an interview could be arranged with him we think it would be worthwhile. Will you be kind enough to communicate with me concerning this matter.

2. I understand from Mr. Roseborough that you have been instrumental in contacting the Spanish Basque Government in exile and in particular Mr. Aguirre, the Basque President, with a view to including them in certain of our projects.

I am on very friendly and intimate terms with a certain Ramon-de-la-Sota who is the Secretary of the Basque Group in this country and very close to President Aguirre.

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DATE: 10-2
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Ramon-de-la-Sota and I went to Cambridge together and I have seen him very frequently for the last four years in New York.

Incidentally, Ramon-de-la-Sota's father is the leading shipbuilder and shipowner in Bilbao, Northern Spain, and has contributed a large part of his personal fortune to the movement of Basque Autonomy so that Ramon's position in the movement is a fairly powerful one.

Although I have not discussed with him matters of possible interest to us, some time ago he mentioned that the Basque Secret Service is a very effective organization in Spain and in some parts of Latin America. I do not believe he himself is engaged in working for this Service.

In any negotiations you may be having with the Basques it occurred to me that my friendship with Ramon-de-la-Sota might be of possible use to you and I wanted to advise you of its existence.

H. B. H.
H. B. H.

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